

STUDY PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Michigan

Project No.: F-81-R-7

Study No.: 230679

Title: Ecological river classification as a basis for
management of coldwater streams

Period Covered: October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006

Study Objectives:

- 1) To complete the classification of Lower Peninsula rivers by including the remaining, smaller coastal rivers (most Lower Peninsula rivers were classified by Seelbach et al. 1997).
- 2) To review the classification boundaries and codings of all Lower Peninsula stream segments, in light of available data and experiences of field personnel. This revision will add major in-channel lakes, coding of individual tributary streams, current trout stocking prescriptions, and current stream classifications.
- 3) To develop criteria for classification of coldwater streams, and to then classify all stream segments as appropriate. Segment classifications will be compared with previous Fisheries Division Stream Classifications and changes will be recommended, if needed. Finally, a process for revision of classifications will be developed.
- 4) To develop stream criteria for trout stocking, and to then classify all stream segments as to their suitability for stocking to meet specific management objectives.

Summary: A manuscript entitled "Field-based estimates of thermal tolerance limits for trout: incorporating exposure time and temperature fluctuation" was written and submitted to Transactions of the American Fisheries Society. The manuscript has been accepted for publication pending minor revisions.

Findings: Job 8 was scheduled for 2005-06, and progress is reported below.

Job 8. Title: Write reports.—A manuscript on the relationships between stream temperatures and trout distribution and abundance was submitted for publication to Transactions of the American Fisheries Society. This annual progress report was prepared as scheduled.

Prepared by: Kevin E. Wehrly

Date: September 30, 2006